

OPC Bulletin

The *Times*, They Are A-Changin'

Editor Tells of Planned Improvements at the Paper of Record

Gene Roberts, managing editor of *The New York Times*, discussed the paper's plans to strengthen its regional and business coverage and to go online at the OPC Foundation scholarship luncheon on Jan. 26.

In early February, the *Times* will step up its daily coverage of New Jersey. By early March, the entire New Jersey section on Sundays will be overhauled, Roberts said.

"We're giving [the Sunday section] a reporting staff for the first time. Previously, we've relied on freelancers," he told the audience of 100 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York. "We're making it in every sense an extension of what the City section is becoming in Manhattan and other parts of New York."

On March 16, the paper plans a major makeover of its daily and Sunday Business sections. During the week, it will increase the news hole by



TANA DUBBE

Q&A—Jennifer Stevenson, a columnist at the *St. Petersburg Times* and daughter of OPC Foundation President H.L. Stevenson, poses a question to *Times* Managing Editor Gene Roberts.

about a page. On Sundays, investing and personal finance will be emphasized, Roberts said.

As expected, he also discussed the paper's plans to go online.

The *Times* has appropriated more than \$4 million this year and has set up a standing committee to devise a national electronic edition, he said.

"We think there's an audience for it

nationally," said Roberts. "For publications like the *Times* and others, it may do well on a national basis, but not on a local basis."

Publications are rapidly going online to stave off classified advertising losses to electronic media, he said. "Without exception, I think newspapers are moving into it for that rea-

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Past President Victor Riesel Dies

Victor Riesel, who served as OPC president in 1967, died on Jan. 4. Following are excerpts from a New York Times obituary that appeared the next day.

Victor Riesel, the crusading syndicated labor columnist who was blinded by an acid attack in 1956, died yesterday at his home in Manhattan. He was 81.

The cause of death was a heart attack, according to his son, Michael.

In a crime that shocked the nation, Mr. Riesel was assaulted just after leaving Lindy's restaurant in midtown Manhattan at 3 a.m. on April 5, 1956. An hour earlier, he had finished a radio broadcast in which he assailed the lead-

ership of a Long Island local of the International Union of operating Engineers.

"I wasn't important as a man, but I was important as a symbol," Mr. Riesel (pronounced re-ZELL) wrote later. "The attack on me was an attack on the entire free press, challenging its right to expose crime and injustice. In hitting me, the underworld was thumbing its nose at the community and the forces of law and order."

Accompanied by a friend and his secretary, Mr. Riesel was headed for his car on 51st Street that night when a young man emerged from the shadows

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President's Corner:

The Dumbest Thing I Ever Did

Author's Note: This is a second tall tale aimed at inspiring correspondents and former correspondents to enter the OPC's competition for the best lies, er, stories of their careers. Many of us will then join to raise a glass and toast the winners at 6 p.m. Feb. 28 at the 1271 Club in the Time-Life Building.

By Bill Holstein

The year was 1981 and I was the Peking bureau chief for United Press International. Working in a communist capital is a real pressure cooker and often quite maddening, which is the only way I can explain what I did.

An Italian filming company was in town shooting a movie on the exploits of Marco Polo. Leonard Nimoy was in it. So was Ken Marshall, whose wife was old friends with my wife. So we received an invitation to go see the filming, which was taking place inside the Forbidden City. This is the central symbol of Chinese power because it was the imperial residence. It is quite spectacular visually, but it also carries heavy emotional meaning for the Chinese. It is their Center.

So I had a little piece of paper, the usual authorization, and headed with my wife, Cathy, and my Chinese teacher, Mr. Li, and my driver, Mr. Kang, to go in the East Gate of the Forbidden City to see the shooting. But the petty bureaucrats, the gatekeepers, said I didn't have the right little itty bitty piece of paper. I was enraged. I had had a bellyful of being pushed

around by junior deputy gatekeepers, which is what you face everywhere in a country like China.

But my companions calmed me down and I didn't want a confrontation that might affect them, particularly the Chinese citizens.

The next day I went around and got another little piece of paper, which really truly was the correct little piece of paper to get me in the gate. I took it and drove my little white Volkswagen back to the East Gate. This time I was alone.

But again a junior deputy assistant gatekeeper told me I couldn't come in. It didn't seem to matter what little piece of paper I had. It was as simple as that—the Head Gatekeeper had decreed that no journalist would be allowed in his gate.

"Bu yao jizhe!" the junior deputy assistant admonished me. "We don't want journalists."

Something in me snapped. I got back in my car and bumped the junior deputy assistant out of my way. There was real fear in his face. "Would the crazy foreigner really run me over?" he must have thought. In short, I physically forced my way into the center of Chinese history, of Chinese sovereignty.

Once inside, it was a maze. Three



Bill Holstein

junior deputy assistants chased me and when I stopped my car to find the filming, they caught up with me. There was a lot of shoving and physical intimidation going on. They obviously could have beaten me senseless, but it must have been the mad look on my face. "This guy must be crazy," they were saying quietly to themselves. They retreated. But again I had played with fire: engaging in physical contact with Chinese citizens in the center of the Forbidden City.

I found the filming and was standing on the set chatting with Leonard Nimoy when the Head Gatekeeper himself and a translator stormed up to the Italian director and demanded to know where was the American journalist.

The Head Gatekeeper was a burly man in his late 50s, old enough to be a veteran of the Korean War. The look on his face was one of pure all-consuming hatred.

"How dare you force your way in here," he said in Chinese.

"We would like to have a conversation with you," was how the translator put it, attempting to defuse conflict.

"You and your stupid gatekeepers ought to get out of my goddamn way," I replied in English. No tone, no emotion.

"The journalist is very sorry," the translator explained in Chinese.

And so it went, before the Head Gatekeeper departed feeling victorious.

It was only later that I realized that I could have been arrested for this incident. Chinese jails and prisons weren't my cup of tea. In retrospect, the only thing that saved me was the smooth talking of a clever translator.

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Entrée Gained at Two New Clubs

By Elinor Griest

In its ongoing effort to forge relationships with other clubs, the OPC has signed reciprocal agreements in two more national capitals: Cambodia's Phnom Penh and Canada's Ottawa.

If you're traveling to Phnom Penh, stop by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Cambodia. Located near the Royal Palace, Parliament and Foreign Ministry, the FCC is a blissful social and professional oasis. From its expansive upper-story terrace-lounge, you'll enjoy a breathtaking view of the junction of the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers.

There is a 20% discount on food and beverages, and 10-30% off on computer, fax and secretarial services in the business center. Newspapers, magazines and an online Reuters news service keep you *au courant*. Admission to regular press conferences, weekly panel discussions and Sunday night films is free.

With Phnom Penh showing signs of renewed vitality, tourism is up and encouraged in the secured areas of the capital city and the ancient temple complex at Angkor Wat, a 45-minute plane ride away.

If you're headed for Ottawa, check out the National Press Club of Canada. This club provides access to the latest political gossip as well as some easy ways to unwind. It's conveniently located near the Parliament, which houses a host of media offices.

A full dining-room lunch can be had from noon to 3 p.m. on weekdays. Lighter fare (soup and sandwiches) is served at two bars, open from noon to 1 a.m. weekdays and from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays—as are the games room, lounge and six courtesy telephones. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays.

Members enjoy free use of recreation facilities—squash courts, weight and exercise rooms, pool and sauna—at nearby Carleton University. If golf is your game, head for the Kingsway Park Golf and Country Club in Aylmer, a 15-minute drive across the bridge to Quebec, where you are entitled to special rates.

Reduced hotel rates are also yours at the Sheraton Ottawa Hotel (\$89-\$119) and Les Suites Hotel Ottawa (\$81-\$140).

Oral History Project Recalls Women Reporters' Struggles

Ruth Cowan became a war correspondent for The Associated Press in the 1940s, after executives at United Press learned she was a woman and fired her.

Katherine Beebe was sent out on assignments that often produced spectacular stories, like the trial of Tokyo Rose, because her presence in the office made men uncomfortable.

Jane Eads hopped fences with Eleanor Roosevelt to keep up with the busy First Lady.

The stories of these gutsy women and many others are captured in an oral history project, sponsored by the Washington Press Club Foundation, that documents the trailblazing role of women journalists in this century.

Entitled "Women in Journalism," the project is a series of audio- and videotape interviews with 56 women whose achievements from the 1920s to the 1990s helped change the lot of women reporters and coverage of women's issues.

Hundreds of hours of taped interview and more than 9,000 pages of transcripts were produced. In the interviews, women recount their battles for jobs, stories, recognition and equality.

"Some of these stories are really quite remarkable," says project director Donita Moorhus. "You read these tran-

scripts, you get the flavor of the way things have changed...but haven't changed at all."

The project required eight years and more than \$600,000 to complete. It was begun with seed money from the Washington Press Club Foundation and accomplished with contributions from many groups, most of them journalism-oriented.

Originally, researchers planned on lengthy interviews with only 20 women. But the number nearly tripled before they had finished.

The Washington Press Club was the successor to the Women's National Press Club, founded as an alternative to the National Press Club, which for many years barred women from becoming full members.

In 1971, the women's organization was renamed the Washington Press Club and began to admit men as members. Only then did the National Press Club agree to admit women journalists.

In 1985, the two organizations merged. The Washington Press Club Foundation was created to take over that former club's assets.

This article is excerpted from a story by Gayle Reaves of the Dallas Morning News.

OPC Denounces Threats in Argentina

By Norman A. Schorr and Dinah Lee

Co-Chairs, OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee

The OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee is protesting two legislative proposals which represent serious threats to press freedom in Argentina.

The first proposal would enlarge the basis for charges of libel and slander. It also calls for higher fines and longer prison sentences for libel and slander than for more serious crimes.

The second proposal calls for mandatory insurance coverage that many newspapers cannot afford.

Two leading newspaper officials in Buenos Aires contacted the OPC, requesting "urgent" action against the

proposals. They said both measures were introduced to intimidate the news media and restrict free speech.

In a message sent by fax to President Menem and other government officials, the OPC wrote: "We urge you to resist the enactment of these proposals which can endanger the independent press in Argentina, and impede the progress of Argentina's democracy."

The Committee also has protested other assaults on press freedom. They include: assassinations of journalists in Cambodia, Pakistan and Tajikistan, raids on four magazines in Turkey, and suspensions of five newspapers in Algeria.

Four Students Win Scholarships

Quick, name one area of the world outside the United States that you feel deserves better coverage.

Almost 75 college and graduate school students who were extended this invitation by the OPC Foundation, in competition for four \$1,000 scholarships, offered a long list of suggestions. The winners were announced at an awards luncheon at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York on Jan. 26.

Here are the award recipients and excerpts from their winning essays:

Linda Garbarino, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY (Reuters Scholarship): "Armenia is the only nation whose literature began with the translation of the Bible....Armenian history in the sciences encompasses a valuable treatise on polygonal numbers and studies on the works of Aristotle. In the field of science, my own family is proudly from the lineage of a doctor who performed the first recorded human skin graft. With the re-independence of Armenia, the world has recognized the country. Now, the world will be re-introduced to the culture and spirit of a very wealthy nation."

Paul O'Donoghue, University of Southern California, Los Angeles (Alexander Kendrick Scholarship): "Media coverage of the Northern Ireland



TANA DUBBE

AND THE WINNERS ARE—(From left) Paul O'Donoghue, Rachel Wimberly-Duff, Igor Drobyshev and Linda Garbarino.

conflict in the U.S. has been very poor. The vast majority of people I speak to are mostly unaware of the fact that the present 'troubles' did not just begin 25 years ago but in fact are part of a much larger and longer conflict that has been going on for some 800 years and that there has been conflict between the Irish and the British just about every 50 years. The significance of the '50' figure is that it indicated every generation!"

Igor Drobyshev, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University (David R. Schweisberg Scholarship): "...None of us has written about why in a country with such peaceful people (India) there's so much blood...why slightest manifestations of sensuality are suppressed in a

country that is proud of the Khajuraho temples, listing them among the top tourist priorities; why in the 'hugest democracy in the world' Communist governments (who still adore Stalin and defend him from criticism) rule in some states for decades...."

Rachel Wimberly-Duff, New York University (David R. Schweisberg Scholarship): "If someone were to read our American newspapers for clues on what is happening inside Cambodia they would be discouraged by the general lack of coverage. Perhaps, the press feels the American people have closed the chapter on Southeast Asia after the Vietnam War. I do not believe this is the case....Cambodia and the United States have a long and tangled history together...."

Just prior to presenting the awards, Jennifer Stevenson, daughter of OPC Foundation President H.L. Stevenson, told the audience that this year's winners "are among the most stellar the OPC has seen."

Two scholarships were awarded this year in memory of David R. Schweisberg, UPI correspondent in Beijing for six years prior to his death in late 1993 of a heart attack at 39. They are funded by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Schweisberg, and friends including several journalists in Asia. A single scholarship bearing his name and funded by the family is to be offered annually by the OPC in the future.

The scholarship bearing Alexander Kendrick's name honors the former CBS correspondent, and was established by a \$3,000 grant from his brother, Victor Kendrick, and an equal amount from The Correspondents Fund.

OPCers Welcome on NPC Trips

By Elinor Griest

OPC members and guests are invited to join two upcoming jaunts planned by the travel committee of Washington's National Press Club.

April 23-30—A getaway Spring break to the unspoiled island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean. Included are airfare, ocean-view rooms at Timothy Beach Resort, a wine-and-cheese reception, breakfasts, and a day of sightseeing. Group price from D.C. is \$1,180 per person, double occupancy, with suites slightly higher. Add about \$100 for individual airfares from New York City. Early reservations advised. Call Libby at Dale Foster Travel in Washington, (800) 843-8231, or trip leader John M. Scott, (202) 265-4963.

July 20-27—A cruise through Alaska's scenic Inside Passage on the Holland America *ms Noordam* during

the peak season for visiting our last frontier. Optional side excursions include Gold Rush country, the mighty Mendenhall Glacier and a salmon fishing trip.

Departing from Vancouver, the itinerary includes Ketchikan, Juneau, Glacier Bay and Sitka. Inside cabins start at \$1,195 per person, double occupancy; outside cabins start at \$1,695 pp/do. Port charges and airfare are extra, but frequent-flyer miles may be applied. An optional four days of sightseeing in Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver precede the cruise. For details and a reservation packet, call Richard Meyer, Didion World Cruises at (800) 348-8287. Fax: (703) 549-7924.

NOTE: In both cases, be sure to mention that you are with a tour organized by the National Press Club.

All the Video That's Fit to Feed

Worldwide Television News Seeks to Fill Niche by Going Where Others Aren't

By Bob Sullivan

The last time you were watching stories on Bosnia or Chechnya, you probably saw the WTN logo on CNN. The little "bug" over pictures from Somalia, South Africa, Washington or Rio, shows that Worldwide Television News, true to its name, is already there—everywhere.

WTN, along with Reuters TV and recently APTV, provides much of the core footage that makes up the international news stories for most of the world.

For a relatively small company, WTN is very widely spread. Some 50 bureaus supply news pictures directly to more than 1,000 broadcasters worldwide. The client list is more than double that if one includes affiliates of ABC, CBS, CNN, Univision, CTV, and Telemundo in North America.

Even the vaunted BBC, which prides itself in having bureaus and cameras in many out-of-the-way places, recently signed up for the WTN service to ensure it had footage from every corner of the globe for its new televised World Service.

Reuters' client list is similar to WTN's, including most of the world's

serious broadcasters, minus CBS, ABC and Univision.

CBS has an international arm called CBI which resells some CBS material overseas, but it hasn't been a major player. APTV is new in the market, trying to build a customer base from, at present, very few clients.

WTN traces its origins back to 1952, when UPI entered the field of television news. In 1991, Capital Cities/ABC became majority owners with an 80% stake; Britain's ITN and Australia's Channel 9 each own 10%.

Perhaps a good way to illustrate what WTN does is to take a complaint from the news accounting department—the guys who keep an eye on what WTN spends.

In October, for instance, the lads in the London accounting department complained of "incredible" expenses for ten major stories which, they said, had used "significant resources."

The stories were the Americans in Haiti; the Americans in Kuwait gearing up for a possible war; the Iraqis hunkering down for more air attacks; the German elections; the Swiss cult deaths; the Finland ferry disaster; a Tel Aviv bus bomb; the Israeli/Jordanian peace agreements; the Mozambique elections and the Russian oil spill.

And that was only European accountants. The Asian accountants, the same month, took vociferous note of costs

involved in covering the Hokkaido earthquake in Japan, the Seoul bridge collapse, and an assassination in Sri Lanka.

In almost every instance, WTN had people on the ground but had to fly in editors, gear and additional personnel to supply the pictures for the hungry satellites that beamed them to clients around the world.

WTN'S MAIN BUREAUS

London (HQ)	Rome
New York	Jerusalem
Los Angeles	Budapest
Hong Kong	Tokyo
Frankfurt	Istanbul
Berlin	New Delhi
Moscow	Karachi
Beijing	Tehran
Washington	Beirut
Paris	Amman
Sydney	Damascus
Cairo	Athens
Johannesburg	

WTN prides itself in being flexible, and was lucky that Bosnia was relatively quiet that month since a Serbian cameraman and a Croatian producer had been pulled to help with its large operation in Haiti.

Like its competition, WTN carefully monitors the number of stories used from its bureaus and special operations. In Haiti, for instance, its crew scored on average eight to five against all competitors. Perhaps more importantly, a gutsy Mexican cameraman saved not one, but two lives in two separate incidents, one of them being that of a Reuters cameraman.

It is not a dull life.

In addition to covering the news and delivering it in natural sound for clients to voice over, WTN provides fully produced programs on the environment, entertainment, and youth affairs. It also produces a daily sports feed to most of Europe and limited areas of the United States; a weekly entertainment feed; and a five-day-a-week business feed, sponsored by Merrill Lynch, which is provided to clients worldwide free of charge.

Bob Sullivan is an OPC board member and news bureau chief for WTN in New York.



LET'S GO TO THE VIDEOTAPE—WTN is taking aim at rivals like Reuters and CBS.

The Times, They Are A-Changin'

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son and not because they think there's a huge readership audience out there, except nationally."

When asked about online services as a reporting tool, Roberts said reporters ran the risk of tipping off competitors. But he opposed the idea of journalists concealing their identities online.

"I know reporters who think that in some instances, in which they are tackling a broad, amorphous sort of story and need some living, breathing examples, it can be one short cut to developing sources," he said. "But then I think a good journalist would take the next step and get their addresses and phone numbers and visit them."

Several audience members asked Roberts about the *Times*' foreign coverage and correspondents.

"Increasingly, we want foreign correspondents to be fluent in the language of the country they're in," Roberts said. "We also pick the type of journalists who are broad enough in their interests and background that they would be able to pick up on a story like the earthquake story [in

Kobe, Japan]."

Asked why the *Times* had no correspondent in Brussels, seat of the European Union and NATO, he responded: "We are discussing that and in time, may well have.... We do have roving European economic correspondents who spend a good bit of time in Brussels. Ultimately, we may anchor there, but that's a decision we have not yet made."

Commenting on the American media's coverage of international stories, he said large U.S. news organizations should more thoroughly report certain stories. As an example, he cited Haiti.

"Virtually all the large media sent people in with the initial invasion force. And within a matter days the cameras were gone and so was virtually everyone else, although the very thing that made it a news story continued to be there. There was the presence of American troops, Aristide was there, and there remained—and still remains—the central question of whether the Aristide government will succeed."

One bright spot in American news-

papers, Roberts said, was the quality of business journalism in recent years. "Many aspects of journalism have declined. I think business journalism has gotten better."

Asked about his greatest challenge at the *Times*, he said: "I endure a bit of frustration with some of the bureaucracy, [but] at other times I applaud it."

Roberts is known in the industry as a hard-nosed newsman, with a brilliant record as a reporter and editor at the *Times*, and later as executive editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. His *Inquirer* staffs won 17 Pulitzers before he retired. He had been teaching at the University of Maryland for the past few years when he was asked by the new executive editor of the *Times*, Joseph Lelyveld, to return as managing editor for three years.

Toward the end of his 45-minute talk, Roberts got a hearty laugh from the audience when he noted America's obsession with television coverage of the O.J. Simpson trial. "It may be slowly bringing our country to its knees," he said.

Roberts' remarks followed the presentation of four \$1,000 OPC Foundation scholarships (see article on p. 4).

—David S. Fondiller

Past President Victor Riesel Dies

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near the Mark Hellinger Theater.

"The acid caught me right between the eyes," he wrote. "He stood there calmly for a moment, deliberately appraising his work. Then he ambled away."

One month later, doctors told Mr. Riesel that he would never see again.

"There was no terror at the moment when I knew I had crossed the line into permanent darkness," Mr. Riesel wrote. "There was only a sudden feeling of shame. I was afraid that people would treat me too gently or shy away from me as though from a freak. And suddenly, I wondered if I could go on writing and earning a living."

But he did.

Abe Telvi, the man accused of throwing the acid, was found dead on Mulberry Street on the morning of July 28, 1956. There was a bullet in his head.

On Aug. 18, the FBI arrested eight men and said the blinding was the work of garment district terrorists determined to silence Mr. Riesel.

Despite his blinding, Mr. Riesel never stopped inveighing against gangster infiltration and other corruption in labor unions that had stirred his emotions since his youth.

His column, which appeared locally in *The Daily Mirror* in New York, was syndicated to as many as 350 newspapers at its height.

Mr. Riesel also lectured and taught, as well as making radio and television appearances. And he had served as president of the Overseas Press Club of America.

He never forgot how he was inspired to devote his life to helping ordinary working people.

"What really got to me," he once recalled, "was something I saw on March 6, 1930, the day of a demonstration in Union Square. I went into the day room of my father's union, and there was a grown man weeping. He had no job. His family had nothing to eat."

Victor Riesel was born and reared on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

When he was 13, he family moved to the Bronx.

At 15, he graduated from Morris High School. He spent the years from 1928 to 1940 at City College, where he attended night classes, specializing in personnel and industrial relations.

By day, he worked at various times in a hat factory, a lace plant and a steel mill. He had his introduction to journalism as director of undergraduate publications and as an editor, columnist, book and drama critic.

Later, he worked in the mines and mills in Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland and Youngstown, Ohio, and reported what he saw for labor publications. He became a correspondent for several foreign papers. He became managing editor of *The New Leader* magazine, then joined *The New York Post* in 1941 and began his column in 1942. At the time of the acid attack, it appeared in 193 newspapers.

In addition to his wife, the former Evelyn Lobelson, and his son, Michael, of Manhattan, Mr. Riesel is survived by a daughter, Susan Riesel Hurwitz of Arcadia, Calif., and four grandchildren.

PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

HONG KONG: Peter Sturtevant, an NBC senior vice president, told reporters in Hong Kong that the network is establishing an Asian business news headquarters in Hong Kong and will open bureaus this year in Bombay, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Taipei and Tokyo.

MOSCOW: *Newsweek's* Andrew Nagorski has been named Moscow bureau chief. This is Nagorski's second tour of duty there for the magazine. In 1982, he gained international notoriety when the Soviet government, sensitive to the enterprising reports filed, expelled him from the country. He has been Warsaw bureau chief since 1990. The OPC has honored him three times for his reporting.

NEW YORK: H.L. Stevenson, former OPC president and current president of the OPC Foundation, remains in critical condition at United Hospital in Port Chester, NY, near his home in Rye. Steve, formerly editor in chief of UPI, first suffered a heart attack in November, from which he apparently recovered. But then he suffered double pneumonia, requiring him to be placed in an oxygen tent, and he developed kidney problems, requiring dialysis. The family requests short cards or notes be sent to him at 75 Overlook Place, Rye, NY 10580.

Karen Elliott House, vice president of Dow Jones' international group, has been promoted to president of the group. House, 47, succeeds **James H. Ottaway, Jr.**, who continues as chairman of the Ottaway group of community newspapers and president of Dow Jones' magazine group.

Allan Sloan, who has written about finance and business for more than 25 years, has joined *Newsweek* as a senior writer in the business section. He will start writing for the magazine in March. Sloan has served as a staff writer for *Forbes*, *Money* and has been a regular columnist in *Newsday* since 1989. He has won four Gerald Loeb awards, business writing's highest honor. His first was in 1975, while working for the *Detroit Free Press*, for

a series about utility rates. He won again in 1985, while a senior editor at *Forbes*, for an article he co-wrote exposing misleading accounting at Financial Corporation of America, then the nation's largest S&L, which later failed. In 1991 and 1993 he again won, this time for commentary in *Newsday*.

Jane Sasseen, who spent many years in Paris as a freelancer, including work for London-based *International Management*, has joined *Business Week* in New York as Corporation department editor.

Harold M. Schmeck Jr., an OPC member and former national science correspondent of *The New York Times*, has co-authored a new book with Dr. Bruce McEwen of The Rockefeller University, *The Hostage Brain* (Rockefeller U.). The book describes the latest brain research and its implications.

Tom Masland has been named a senior writer at *Newsweek*. Prior to joining the magazine four years ago, he worked as a reporter for *The Chicago Tribune* and as Middle East correspondent for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

TOKYO: **Doug Ruhe** and **Bill Geissler**, who bought UPI from the E.W. Scripps Co. in 1982, have sold its international newpicture service to Reuters. To run Asia photos, UPI rehired **Rikio Imajo**, the wire service's newpicture manager when photo operations passed to Reuters.

Bernie Krisher, a former *Newsweek* Tokyo bureau chief who has worked in Japan as a journalist for more than 30 years, and his wife **Akiko** have established two organizations, Japan Relief for Cambodia and American Assistance for Cambodia, to help reconstruct and rehabilitate the Southeast Asian nation. Projects include publication of an independent newspaper, *The Cambodia Daily*; supporting a journalism workshop at the University of Phnom Penh; distribution of 3,000 bicycles collected in Japan; support for a medical team in Phnom Penh Municipal Hospital; and estab-

lishment of a free hospital for the poor. you can contact Krisher at 4-1-7-605 Hiroo, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150, Japan, or fax to 011-81-3-3486-6789.

WASHINGTON: **John Wallach**, foreign editor for Hearst newspapers and an author, has been named executive director of the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity. The foundation organizes international forums on issues of ethics and understanding, among other things. Wallach will move from Washington to New York, and will also take on the post of senior fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Don Kirk has a new book out, *Korean Dynasty: Hyundai and Chung Ju Yung*, an unauthorized study of Korea's largest business group and its rags-to-riches founder. Publishers: M.E. Sharpe, Armonk, NY; ASIA 2000, Hong Kong.

DECEASED: **Percy Knauth**, an author and foreign correspondent, died on Jan. 14 at Mystic Manor Convalescent Center in Mystic Conn. He was 80. After working for *The Chicago Tribune* in Berlin, he became a correspondent for *The New York Times* in March 1939 and filed his reports from wartime Berlin until April 1941, when he became a special writer in the *Times'* Sunday Department in New York. He joined *Time* magazine as a war correspondent in 1942 and spent the next 28 years working for Time-Life publications in Paris, Berlin and New York. He left as European editor in 1970 to devote his time to freelance writing and editing.

OUR HEARTIEST THANKS...

to *Parade's* **Larry Smith** and *Business Week's* **Tom Reed**. Smith donated a Mac and desktop publishing software to assist with the *Bulletin*. Reed gave four personal computers, three printers and a fax for the OPC office. We'll set them up as soon as we move from our current tiny, cluttered lodgings across the hall to a much bigger space. This means we will soon be able to offer word processing, faxing and other services to visiting members. Can anyone contribute a couple of modems?

YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T PLAY

Mark your calendars: Feb. 17 is the last day to enter the OPC's "Correspondents Night" contest.

Fabulous prizes await those who can come up with the best responses to the following questions:

1. Most godforsaken place visited for a story
2. Strangest story ever covered
3. Greatest beat
4. Worst beat
5. Most fortuitous timing (arriving the day before the revolution, leaving before the explosion)
6. Largest insect or most repugnant critter ever encountered in the line of duty (must describe)
7. Most creative expense account
8. Most bizarre ploy to get the story (threats, wild claims, false identities)
9. Most extreme inventive or downright impressive measure taken to get the story to the home office (commandeering boats, posing as a pilot, "borrowing" equipment)
10. Most memorable watering hole

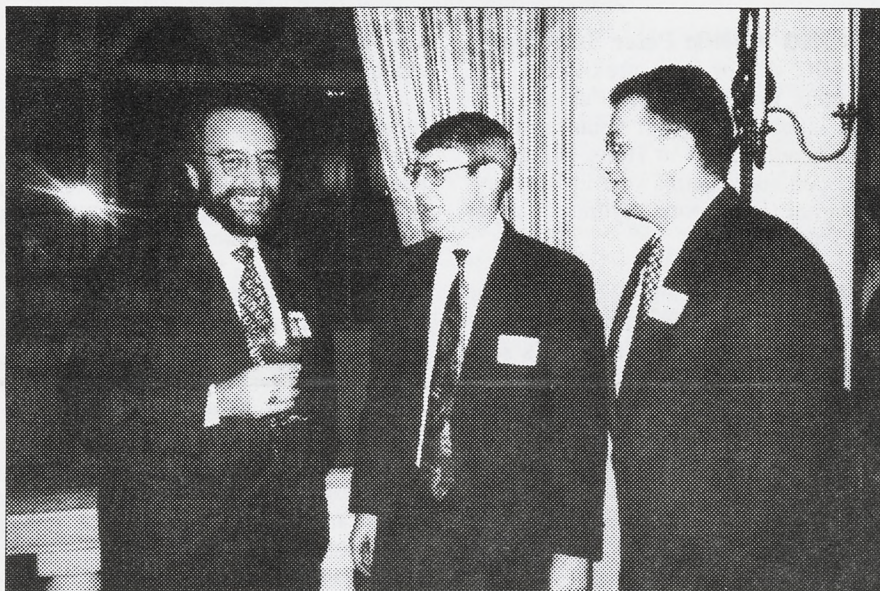
Just send your answers to Sonya Fry at the OPC. The competition is open to journalists who have been posted outside the U.S. at some point in their careers. Winners will be announced at "Correspondents Night" Feb. 28 at 6 p.m., at the 1271 Club in the Time-Life Building.

Tickets are \$30, which includes open bar and food. Make checks payable to the Overseas Press Club. Reserve by calling (212) 983-4655.

CORRESPONDENTS NIGHT

Feb. 28 at 6 pm
1271 Club
Time-Life Building
RSVP (212) 983-4655

X-Mas Party Rings in New Year!



'TIS THE SEASON—(From left) Jay Grossman, corporation communications chief at Bell Atlantic, shares a laugh with AP International Editor Tom Kent and Peter Goodale, media relations director at Nynex. Thanks to a high turnout, exciting raffle, and fine food and drink, a good time was had by all at the Jan. 5 X-Mas party, held at The Tudor. At right, longtime member Li Ling Ai beams after winning the raffle's grand prize—a two-night stay at the Hotel Scribe in Paris! She is flanked by OPC President Bill Holstein and party Chair Jackie Albert-Simon.



PHOTOS BY DAVID S. FONDILLER

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